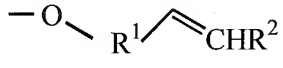
IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims shall replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Amendment to the Claims

1-38 (CANCELED)

39. (AMENDED) A polymer with nucleophilic groups capped with a triazine moiety comprising at least one vinyl, allyl, or propargyloxy group, or olefinic group of formula (VII; Fu^1):

(VII) $Fu^1 =$ 

wherein R^1 is alkyl or aryl; and R^2 is hydrogen, alkyl, or aryl~~.~~, wherein the polymer is a triazine moiety capped hydroxyy-terminated poly (phenylene ether) or a triazine moiety capped hydroxy-terminated polycarbonate, and wherein the polymer does not comprise triazine-containing moiety as a structural unit in the polymer chain other than at a terminal site.

40. (ORIGINAL) The polymer of claim 39 wherein the triazine moiety comprises at least one vinyl, allyl, allyloxy, 2-allylphenoxy, 4-allylphenoxy, 4-ethenylphenoxy, cinnamyloxy, 4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy, or propargyloxy group.

41. (ORIGINAL) The polymer of claim 39 in which the nucleophilic groups capped are hydroxy or amino groups.

42. (CANCELED)

43. (CANCELED)

44. (AMENDED) The polymer of claim ~~43~~ 39 which is a poly(phenylene ether) comprising 2,6-dimethylphenylene structural units.

45. (AMENDED) The polymer of claim ~~43~~ 39 which is a polycarbonate comprising bisphenol A structural units.

46. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 1.

47. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 46 which comprises a catalyst.

48. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 47 wherein the catalyst is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a nitrogen-containing basic compound, a phosphorus-containing basic compound, an alkali metal compound, sodium hydroxide, an alkaline earth metal compound, a boric acid, and a boric ester.

49. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 46 wherein L^1 is removed from a reaction mixture by devolatilization as leaving group compound and recovered.

50. (WITHDRAWN) process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 7.

51. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 8.

52. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 51 which comprises a catalyst.

53. (WITHDRAWN)The process of claim 52 wherein the catalyst is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a nitrogen-containing basic compound, a

phosphorus-containing basic compound, an alkali metal compound, sodium hydroxide, an alkaline earth metal compound, a boric acid, and a boric ester.

54. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 51 wherein L^1 is removed from a reaction mixture by devolatilization as leaving group compound and recovered..

55. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 14.

56. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 16.

57. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 18.

58. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 19.

59. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 20.

60. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 59 which comprises a catalyst.

61. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 60 wherein the catalyst is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a nitrogen-containing basic compound, a phosphorus-containing basic compound, an alkali metal compound, sodium hydroxide, an alkaline earth metal compound, a boric acid, and a boric ester.

62. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 59 wherein L^1 is removed from a reaction mixture by devolatilization as leaving group compound and recovered.

63. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 26.

64. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 27.

65. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 64 which comprises a catalyst.

66. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 65 wherein the catalyst is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a nitrogen-containing basic compound, a phosphorus-containing basic compound, an alkali metal compound, sodium hydroxide, an alkaline earth metal compound, a boric acid, and a boric ester.

67. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 64 wherein L^1 is removed from a reaction mixture by devolatilization as leaving group compound and recovered.

68. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 31.

69. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 33.

70. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 34.

71. (WITHDARWN) The process of claim 70 which comprises a catalyst.

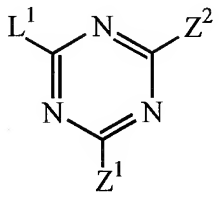
72. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 71 wherein the catalyst is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a nitrogen-containing basic compound, a phosphorus-containing basic compound, an alkali metal compound, sodium hydroxide, an alkaline earth metal compound, a boric acid, and a boric ester.

73. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 70 wherein L^1 is removed from a reaction mixture by devolatilization as leaving group compound and recovered..

74. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 35.

75. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping nucleophilic groups in a polymer or monomer which comprises combining and reacting the polymer or monomer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of claim 38.

76. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping terminal hydroxy groups in a polycarbonate which comprises combining and reacting the polymer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of the formula (I) :



(I)

wherein L^1 is o-carbomethoxyphenoxy, and Z^1 and Z^2 are each independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl, alkoxy, alkylamino, arylamino, aryloxy, methyl, phenyl, methoxy, ethoxy, isopropoxy, n-butoxy, iso-butoxy, t-butoxy, benzyloxy, cyclohexyloxy, methylcyclohexyloxy, nonyloxy, decyloxy, octadecyloxy, oleyloxy, phenoxy, substituted aryloxy, arylaryloxy, arylphenoxy, alkylphenoxy, 2-alkylphenoxy, 3-alkylphenoxy, 4-alkylphenoxy, n-butylphenoxy, isobutylphenoxy, t-butylphenoxy, 4-t-butylphenoxy, n-pentylphenoxy, 4-t-amylphenoxy, n-hexylphenoxy, cyclohexylphenoxy, phenylphenoxy, naphthylphenoxy, 4-cumylphenoxy, 4-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenoxy, octylphenoxy, 4-tert-octylphenoxy, nonylphenoxy, dodecylphenoxy, octadecylphenoxy, pentadecylphenoxy, pentadecenylphenoxy, methoxyphenoxy, phenoxyphenoxy, benzyloxyphenoxy, n-hexyloxyphenoxy, 2-methoxyethylphenoxy, 4-(4'-oxyphenyl)-2,2,4-trimethylchroman, 2-(4'-oxyphenyl)-2,4,4-trimethylchroman, 1-(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)-4-(1-methyl-1-(4'-oxyphenyl)ethyl)-benzene, 1,3-bis(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)-5-(1-methyl-1-(4'-oxyphenyl)ethyl)-benzene, 4-

cyanophenoxy, dialkylphenoxy, 2,6-dialkylphenoxy, 2,6-dimethylphenoxy, 2,6-di-t-butylphenoxy, 2,4-dialkylphenoxy, 2,4-di-t-butylphenoxy, 2,5-dialkylphenoxy, 2,5-di-t-butylphenoxy, 2,5-dicumylphenoxy, 3,5-dialkylphenoxy, 3,5-di-t-butylphenoxy, 3,5-dicumylphenoxy, 2,3-dialkylphenoxy, 2,3-di-t-butylphenoxy, dimethoxyphenoxy, halophenoxy, 4-halophenoxy, 4-bromophenoxy, dihalophenoxy, dibromophenoxy, 2,6-dihalophenoxy, 2,6-dibromophenoxy, 2,6-dichlorophenoxy, 2,6-(dialkoxycarbonyl)phenoxy, 2,6-(dimethoxycarbonyl)phenoxy, trialkylphenoxy, 2,3,6-trialkylphenoxy, 2,3,6-trimethylphenoxy, 2,4,6-trialkylphenoxy, 2,4,6-trimethylphenoxy, trihalophenoxy, tribromophenoxy, 2,4,6-trihalophenoxy, 2,4,6-tribromophenoxy, 2,4,6-trichlorophenoxy, vinyl, allyl, allyloxy, 2-allylphenoxy, 4-allylphenoxy, 4-ethenylphenoxy, cinnamyloxy, 4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy, propargyloxy, glycidoxy, and 4-oxymethyl-2-methoxy-2-methyl-1,3-dioxolane.

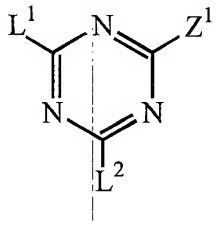
77. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 76 wherein the polycarbonate is derived from a melt reaction process with reactants comprising bisphenol A and diphenylcarbonate.

78. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 76 which comprises a catalyst.

79. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 78 wherein the catalyst is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a nitrogen-containing basic compound, a phosphorus-containing basic compound, an alkali metal compound, sodium hydroxide, an alkaline earth metal compound, a boric acid, and a boric ester.

80. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 76 wherein L^1 is removed from a reaction mixture by devolatilization as methyl salicylate and recovered.

81. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping terminal hydroxy groups in a polycarbonate which comprises combining and reacting the polymer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of the formula (II) :



(II)

wherein L^1 and L^2 are each o-carbomethoxyphenoxy; and Z^1 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, aryl, alkaryl, aralkyl, alkoxy, alkylamino, arylamino, aryloxy, methyl, phenyl, methoxy, ethoxy, isopropoxy, n-butoxy, iso-butoxy, t-butoxy, benzyloxy, cyclohexyloxy, methylcyclohexyloxy, nonyloxy, decyloxy, octadecyloxy, oleyloxy, phenoxy, substituted aryloxy, arylaryloxy, arylphenoxy, alkylphenoxy, 2-alkylphenoxy, 3-alkylphenoxy, 4-alkylphenoxy, n-butylphenoxy, isobutylphenoxy, t-butylphenoxy, 4-t-butylphenoxy, n-pentylphenoxy, 4-t-amylphenoxy, n-hexylphenoxy, cyclohexylphenoxy, phenylphenoxy, naphthylphenoxy, 4-cumylphenoxy, 4-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenoxy, octylphenoxy, 4-tert-octylphenoxy, nonylphenoxy, dodecylphenoxy, octadecylphenoxy, pentadecylphenoxy, pentadecenylphenoxy, methoxyphenoxy, phenoxyphenoxy, benzyloxyphenoxy, n-hexyloxyphenoxy, 2-methoxyethylphenoxy, 4-(4'-oxyphenyl)-2,2,4-trimethylchroman, 2-(4'-oxyphenyl)-2,4,4-trimethylchroman, 1-(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)-4-(1-methyl-1-(4'-oxyphenyl)ethyl)-benzene, 1,3-bis(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)-5-(1-methyl-1-(4'-oxyphenyl)ethyl)-benzene, 4-cyanophenoxy, dialkylphenoxy, 2,6-dialkylphenoxy, 2,6-dimethylphenoxy, 2,6-di-t-butylphenoxy, 2,4-dialkylphenoxy, 2,4-di-t-butylphenoxy, 2,5-dialkylphenoxy, 2,5-di-t-butylphenoxy, 2,5-dicumylphenoxy, 3,5-dialkylphenoxy, 3,5-di-t-butylphenoxy, 3,5-dicumylphenoxy, 2,3-dialkylphenoxy, 2,3-di-t-butylphenoxy, dimethoxyphenoxy, halophenoxy, 4-halophenoxy, 4-bromophenoxy, dihalophenoxy, dibromophenoxy, 2,6-dihalophenoxy, 2,6-dibromophenoxy, 2,6-dichlorophenoxy, 2,6-(dialkoxycarbonyl)phenoxy, 2,6-(dimethoxycarbonyl)phenoxy, trialkylphenoxy, 2,3,6-trialkylphenoxy, 2,3,6-trimethylphenoxy, 2,4,6-trialkylphenoxy, 2,4,6-trimethylphenoxy, trihalophenoxy, tribromophenoxy, 2,4,6-trihalophenoxy, 2,4,6-tribromophenoxy, 2,4,6-trichlorophenoxy, vinyl, allyl, allyloxy, 2-allylphenoxy, 4-allylphenoxy, 4-ethenylphenoxy, cinnamyloxy, 4-allyl-2-methoxyphenoxy, propargyloxy, glycidoxy, and 4-oxymethyl-2-methoxy-2-methyl-1,3-dioxolane.

82. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 81 wherein at least a portion of polycarbonate chains are chain extended.

83. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 81 wherein the polycarbonate number average molecular weight increases by at least 1,000 Daltons.

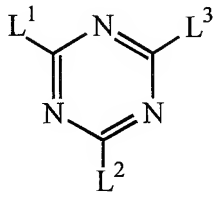
84. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 81 wherein the polycarbonate is derived from a melt reaction process with reactants comprising bisphenol A and diphenylcarbonate.

85. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 81 which comprises a catalyst.

86. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 85 wherein the catalyst is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a nitrogen-containing basic compound, a phosphorus-containing basic compound, an alkali metal compound, sodium hydroxide, an alkaline earth metal compound, a boric acid, and a boric ester.

87. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 81 wherein L is removed from a reaction mixture by devolatilization as methyl salicylate and recovered.

88. (WITHDRAWN) A process for capping terminal hydroxy groups in a polycarbonate which comprises combining and reacting the polymer with a triazine-comprising capping agent of the formula (III) :



(III)

wherein L^1, L^2, and L^3 are each o-carbomethoxyphenoxy.

89. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 88 wherein at least a portion of polycarbonate chains are branched.

90. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 88 wherein the value for polycarbonate melt volume rate decreases by at least 10% compared to its initial value.

91. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 88 wherein the polycarbonate is derived from a melt reaction process with reactants comprising bisphenol A and diphenylcarbonate.

92. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 88 which comprises a catalyst.

93. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 92 wherein the catalyst is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a nitrogen-containing basic compound, a phosphorus-containing basic compound, an alkali metal compound, sodium hydroxide, an alkaline earth metal compound, a boric acid, and a boric ester.

94. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 88 wherein L is removed from a reaction mixture by devolatilization as methyl salicylate and recovered.

95. (WITHDRAWN) A process for preparing polycarbonate which comprises melt transesterification in the presence of at least one triazine-comprising capping agent comprising at least one o-carbomethoxyphenoxy substituent.

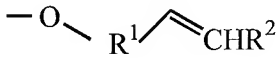
96. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 95 wherein the polycarbonate comprises structural units derived from the reaction of bisphenol A and diphenylcarbonate.

97. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 95 which comprises a catalyst.

98. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 97 wherein the catalyst is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a nitrogen-containing basic compound, a phosphorus-containing basic compound, an alkali metal compound, sodium hydroxide, an alkaline earth metal compound, a boric acid, and a boric ester.

99. (WITHDRAWN) The process of claim 95 wherein methyl salicylate is removed from a reaction mixture by devolatilization and recovered.

100. (NEW) A polymer with nucleophilic groups capped with a triazine moiety comprising at least one vinyl, allyl, or propargyloxy group or olefinic group of formula (VII; Fu^1):

(VII) $Fu^1 =$ 

wherein R^1 is alkyl or aryl; and R^2 is hydrogen, alkyl or aryl, wherein the polymer is a poly (phenylene ether) comprising 2-6-dimethyl phenylene structural units.